

Amendments to the claims:

Please replace all prior versions and listings of the claims with the following amended claims:

Claims 1-20 (canceled).

21. (previously presented) A method of styling hair comprising:
- a. providing a stencil with a predetermined pattern;
 - b. placing the stencil over an area of the hair;
 - c. tracing the predetermined pattern from the stencil and through the hair with a parting device while holding the stencil in place over the area of the hair; and
 - d. separating the hair along the trace.
22. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the predetermined pattern is provided with an outer edge of the stencil.
23. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the parting device comprises two hingably attached handles that are capable of opening and closing in a jaw-like fashion to facilitate the step of separating the hair.

Claims 24-26 (canceled).

27. (currently amended) A method of parting hair in a preferred configuration comprising:
- a. placing a template with a patterned edge on a section of hair;
 - b. placing a pointed tip portion of a styling device near the patterned edge of the template, the styling device comprising a first and a second handle coupled by one end of each of the first and [[a]] second handles to the pointed tip portion through a first and a second hinge element;
 - c. tracing along the [[a]] patterned edge of the template with the handles aligned in a closed position and the pointed tip portion pointing in a forward tracing direction; and
 - d. separating the handles to an open position about the pointed tip portion, thereby parting the hair in the preferred pattern.

28. (canceled).
29. (previously presented) A method of making a hair parting system comprising;
- a. forming a flexible elongated stencil with a plurality of geometric protrusions along a styling edge; and
 - b. forming a separate parting device comprising an extended tip section with a pointed end,
- wherein the parting device is configured to trace a pattern through hair and along the styling edge of the stencil, while the styling stencil is held against the hair and wherein forming a separate parting device comprises:
- a. forming a first elongated handle;
 - b. forming a second elongated handle; and
 - c. attaching the first and the second elongated handles opposite the pointed end of the extended tip section through hinge elements, such that unattached ends of the handles are capable of being aligned in a closed position and separated in an open position in a jaw-like fashion through the hinge elements.
30. (canceled).